

# Explains Plans For Leasing of Arsenal Units

Of the many buildings on the Joliet Arsenal reservation, a large portion will be offered for lease to manufacturers who can use the structures as they are, so they will be ready for wartime production use "if necessary."

This was reported yesterday by Col. Carroll Hudson, commanding officer, following the announcement from Washington, D. C., by Col. O. N. Jank, chief of army ordnance, that the Joliet plant is one of 31 such "standby for war" facilities offered for lease in 17 states. The news was first reported by the Herald-News Copley Press Washington bureau.

**COL. HUDSON** said that some time this week the corps of army engineers will advertise the buildings as being available for lease "if private industry can use them as they are."

"We have a list of buildings available providing those who want to lease them can meet the restrictions set up," Col. Hudson explained. "Many of the buildings are very small. Most of the large buildings are not available for lease since they are still being used for our peacetime program. The prospective renters will be sent a published list of the sites available to industry, and the buildings will be described in detail. The list is being put out by the district engineer in Chicago."

Col. Hudson stressed that only those buildings not being used and which will not in any way affect continued operations of the arsenal peacetime program will be available for leasing purposes.

The engineer corps will contract for the leases on a combination of bid and negotiation with the prospective customers. There will be no auction, Col. Hudson stated, and only those with responsible business in mind will be interviewed for the leases.

**IN GIVING** some examples of the type of building available, Col. Hudson said that on the EOP portion of the arsenal reservation the personnel building has been closed and all employees moved into the general administration building. The personnel building is one of those available for rental purposes.

"If someone with a distributive agency wants a lot of small offices, this building would be good for that purpose," he said.

"At KOW the two-story administration building is not now being used and would also be an ideal site for distributing headquarters of some company."

"One of the acid areas has been closed down and an industry interested in production of nitric or sulphuric acid or even production of ammonium nitrate fertilizer, such as is going on here now, might lease this area."

"But," he pointed out, "the lease can be terminated by the secretary of war whenever he feels that the buildings are again needed by the country. In case of an emergency the buildings immediately revert to the war department. We cannot lease any of the buildings if major structural changes are contemplated by the lessee, because the facilities for wartime production must not be upset."